

## Page 1 of 1

The Examiner's attention is directed to the following related application(s) for the following reasons (as indicated by an "X" to the left of the appropriate paragraph):

\_\_\_\_\_ The Examiner is hereby notified that the following related application has been filed:

U.S. Application Serial No. \_\_\_\_\_, filed on \_\_\_\_\_.

This related application contains one or more claims that may be substantially similar to one or more claims in the present application. Therefore, the Examiner is encouraged to reference the file history of the related application as some of the information contained therein may be material to the examination of the present application.

OA  
X  
10/18/04

The Examiner is hereby notified that the present application is related to the following related application(s):

U.S. Application Serial No. 09/483,726, filed on January 14, 2000.

U.S. Application Serial No. 09/483,246, filed on January 14, 2000.

U.S. Application Serial No. 09/483,723, filed on January 14, 2000.

U.S. Application Serial No. \_\_\_\_\_, filed on \_\_\_\_\_.

U.S. Application Serial No. \_\_\_\_\_, filed on \_\_\_\_\_.

The related application(s) contain(s) one or more claims that may be substantially similar to one or more claims in the present application, those claims may have been rejected in the related application(s), and a different interpretation may have been applied to one or more of the references that are of record in the present application. Therefore, the Examiner is encouraged to review the file history(ies) of the related application(s) as some of the information contained therein may be material to the examination of the present application.

OA  
X  
10/18/04

The Examiner is hereby notified that for the following related application(s) an Office Action has been received as indicated below:

U.S. Application Serial No. 09/483,726, filed on January 14, 2000 (Office Action mailing date June 8, 2004).